



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/739,856	12/18/2000	Jason M. Allor	205728	4196

23460 7590 01/14/2004

LEYDIG VOIT & MAYER, LTD  
TWO PRUDENTIAL PLAZA, SUITE 4900  
180 NORTH STETSON AVENUE  
CHICAGO, IL 60601-6780

EXAMINER

CHUONG, TRUC T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2174

DATE MAILED: 01/14/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/739,856

Applicant(s)

ALLOR ET AL.

Examiner

Truc T Chuong

Art Unit

2174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 October 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 and 17-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 and 17-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_ 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is responsive to Amendment A, filed 10/14/03.
2. Claims 1-15 and 17-26 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 10, 17, 21, and 22 are independent claims. In Amendment A, claim 3 is amended, and claim 16 is cancelled. This action is made final.
3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior office action.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

4. Claims 1-15, and 17-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Weinberg et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,144,962).

As to claim 1, Weinberg teaches a computer-implemented method for making resources available to an organization, the method comprising: presenting a hierarchy comprising a plurality of nodes (hierarchical tree, col. 2 lines 35-37, and figs. 2-5) wherein at least one of the nodes represents resources for performing tasks of the organization (col. 2 lines 12-14); and presenting a link group associated with at least one of the nodes (children and parents nodes, col. 2 lines 37-48, and figs. 5-6) wherein the link group comprises one or more links through which to open files or execute programs to access the resources and accomplish at least one of the tasks (each node represents a respective content object such as: Java applets, mail messages, audio/video files, and applications, col. 8 lines 32-50, and launching an application, col. 10 lines 16-34).

Art Unit: 2174

As to claim 2, Weinberg teaches a computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 1 (software package "Astra" runs on a client computer, col. 7 lines 48-54).

As to claim 3, Weinberg teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the link group is extensible to allow a plurality of users to add links and thereby add to the available resources (add a dataset to the current URL, col. 25 lines 9).

As to claim 4, Weinberg teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising: organizing the resources into functional areas; representing each functional area by a node of the plurality; and, receiving a user selection of at least one of the nodes (Astra Graphical User Interface, col. 15 lines 40-67, col. 16 lines 1-39, and figs. 3-5, 19, 21), wherein the one or more links of the presented link group are usable to open files or execute programs to access resources of the functional area represented by the selected node (col. 8 lines 40-50, and fig. 14).

As to claim 5, Weinberg teaches the method of claim 4, wherein the presented link group comprises a link to a web site regarding the functional area represented by the selected node (col. 8 lines 40-50, and fig. 14).

As to claim 6, Weinberg teaches the method of claim 4, wherein the presented link group comprises a link to a document regarding the functional area (col. 8 lines 40-50).

As to claim 7, Weinberg teaches the method of claim 4, wherein the presented link group comprises a link to set up an email to a person responsible for the functional area (mail message, col. 8 lines 46-50).

Art Unit: 2174

As to claim 8, Weinberg teaches the method of claim 4, wherein the presented link group comprises a link to a software useful in performing work in the functional area (filter bar, col. 16 lines 21-39).

As to claim 9, Weinberg teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the hierarchy is a tree, wherein the node to which the link group is associated is a child node, and wherein at least one of the plurality of nodes is a parent of the child node (figs. 2, 5, and 6).

As to claim 10, Weinberg teaches a method for enabling a plurality of users to collaborate on a project, the method comprising: presenting a graphical hierarchy having a plurality of nodes, each node representing one or more sub-projects into which the project is divided (the relationships between parent nodes and children nodes show as hierarchical data structure displays, col. 2 lines 27-48); and, in response to user selection of a node of the plurality, presenting one or more links, wherein the links are selectable to open files or execute programs for use by one or more of the plurality of users to contribute to the one or more sub-projects represented by the selected node (see claim 1 and figs. 2, 5, and 6).

As to claim 11, it is individually similar in scope to claim 2 above; therefore, rejected under similar rationale.

As to claim 12, Weinberg teaches the method of claim 10, further comprising: displaying at least one representation of a task associated with a node of the plurality of nodes (figs. 14 and 19); displaying at least one representation of a computer that is to be used to work on the project (figs. 19 and 21), wherein the computer has a work queue (Link Doctor of fig. 22); and, in response to a user of the plurality moving the task representation to the computer representation,

Art Unit: 2174

adding the represented task to the work queue of the represented computer (Edit, col. 31 lines 14-24, and fig. 22).

As to claim 13, Weinberg teaches the method of claim 10, further comprising: displaying at least one representation of a task associated with a node of the plurality of nodes (see claim 12 above); displaying at least one representation of a user of the plurality of users (Weinberg shows plurality of users (Internet and World Wide Web, col. 5 lines 23-27, and col. 5 lines 57-65), wherein the represented user has a work queue; and, in response to a transfer of the task representation to the user representation, adding the represented task to the work queue of the represented user (see claim 12 above).

As to claim 14, Weinberg teaches the method of claim 10, wherein the graphical hierarchy is a tree, and is presented in a first pane of a user interface (col. 2 lines 35-37, and fig. 6), and wherein the links are presented in a second pane of the user interface (Pan Window, col. 17 lines 21-39, and fig. 5).

As to claim 15, Weinberg teaches the method of claim 12, wherein the graphical hierarchy is a tree, and is presented in a first pane of a user interface, the links are presented in a second pane of the user interface (see claim 14 above), and the work queue is represented in a third pane of the user interface (figs. 5 and 22).

As to claim 17, Weinberg teaches a method for making software testing resources available, the method comprising: presenting a graphical hierarchy comprising a plurality of nodes (figs. 1-5), wherein each node represents a set of software tests (Weinberg's GUI does not only present URL documents but also display test scripts, images, Java Applets, applications, and software as nodes (col. 8 lines 32-50, col. 16 lines 21-57); and test scripts of TABLE 2, col.

Art Unit: 2174

18 lines 20-35); and, in response to a user selection of at least one of the nodes, presenting a group of links, wherein the links are activatable by the user to open files or execute programs to (see claim 1 above) assist the user in conducting the set of software tests represented by the selected node (test software packages of TABLE 2, col. 18 lines 20-35).

As to claim 18, it is individually similar in scope to claim 2 above; therefore, rejected under similar rationale.

As to claim 19, Weinberg teaches the method of claim 17, further comprising: presenting one or more representations of computers; and; in response to dragging a node of the plurality of nodes over to at least one of the representations, adding the set of software tests represented by the dragged node to the computer represented by the representation (see test scripts of claim 17 above, and drags and drops, col. 16 lines 40-57 and fig. 4).

As to claim 20, Weinberg teaches the method of claim 17, further comprising: presenting the graphical hierarchy in a first pane of a user interface (col. 2 lines 35-37, and fig. 6); and, presenting the group of links in a second pane of the user interface (figs. 4-5).

As to claim 21, this is a system claim of method claims 1 and 13. Note the rejections of claims 1 and 13 above.

As to claim 22, this is a system claim of method claims 10 and 14. Note the rejections of claims 10 and 14 above.

As to claim 23, it is individually similar in scope to claim 2 above; therefore, rejected under similar rationale.

As to claims 24-25, they are system claims of method claims 9-10. Note the rejections of claims 9-10 above respectively.

Art Unit: 2174

As to claim 26, it is individually similar in scope to claim 25 above; therefore, rejected under similar rationale.

***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments filed in Amendment A have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants argued the following:

- a. Weinberg does not teach of presenting a hierarchy of nodes with at least one of the nodes representing resources for performing tasks of the organization to open files or executes programs.
- b. Weinberg does not teach or suggest sub-projects.
- c. Weinberg's mapping component does not provide a set of software test.
- d. Weinberg does not display resources into categories and display a group of links associated with a category when a user selects a category.

The Examiner disagrees for the following reasons:

Per (a), Weinberg clearly states that each node represents a respective content object such as: Java applets, mail messages, audio/video files, and applications (col. 8 lines 32-50, and launching (executing) an application, col. 10 lines 16-34).

Per (b), Weinberg teaches the relationships between parent nodes and children nodes and shows as hierarchical data structure displays (col. 2 lines 27-48 and figs. 2, 5&6).



Art Unit: 2174

Per (c), Weinberg's GUI does not only present URL documents but also displays test scripts, images, Java Applets, applications, and software as nodes (col. 8 lines 32-50, col. 16 lines 21-57, and test scripts of TABLE 2, col. 18 lines 20-35).

Per (d), Weinberg's system displays and groups the layout information as highly organized hierarchical tree levels of nodes (col. 2 lines 10-57), and figs. 14, 15, and 22 shows that only a particular type of data with under similar category (infoseek main page of fig. 14) can only be grouped under a similar hierarchical tree of nodes.

### *Conclusion*

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Truc T Chuong whose telephone number is 703-305-5753. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th and alternate Fridays 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

Art Unit: 2174

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L. Kincaid can be reached on 703-308-0640. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-746-7239.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Truc T. Chuong

01/08/04

*Kristine Kincaid*  
KRISTINE KINCAID  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100